

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region

**Tissue, Sediment and Benthic Infauna Data
Port Hueneme Harbor (back basins)**

Summary of Proposed Action

Proposed New Delistings

- Delist PAHs in sediment since levels appear to be low throughout most of the back basin area based on Army Corps of Engineers data.
- Delist TBT for tissue because there are no tissue assessment guidelines for TBT and levels in the sediments are low.
- Delist zinc for tissue because there are no tissue assessment guidelines for zinc and levels in the sediments are low.

These actions all affect the aquatic life beneficial uses.

Table 1. 303(d) Listing/TMDL Information

Waterbody Name	Port Hueneme Harbor (back basins)	Pollutants/Stressors	See Above
Hydrologic Unit	403.11	Source(s)	Unknown
Total Waterbody Size	50	TMDL Priority	PAH: 27 Zinc: 28 TBT: 30
Size Affected		TMDL Start Date (Mo/Yr)	N/A
Extent of Impairment		TMDL End Date (Mo/Yr)	N/A

Watershed Characteristics

Port Hueneme is a medium-sized deepwater harbor located in Ventura County, north of Mugu Lagoon. Part of it was operated by a U.S. Navy Construction Battalion until very recently while the rest of the harbor serves as a commercial port operated by the Oxnard Harbor District. The construction of a majority of the harbor was completed in 1975. The commercial side generally serves ocean-going cargo vessels and oil supply boats; the latter serve the oil platforms in the Santa Barbara Channel. Two endangered bird species may use the harbor, the California Brown Pelican and the California Least Tern.

Water Quality Objectives Not Attained

N/A

Beneficial Uses Affected

Aquatic Life

Data Assessment

Sediment chemistry (96, 01): metals and organics levels were low, except for PCBs at 1 of 20 stations sampled in 2001.

Table 2. Summary of Tissue and Sediment Data for Port Hueneme Harbor (back basins)

Dates of Sampling	6/19/96 5/1/01
Number of Samples (n)	1996: 2 + 12 (sediments) 2001: 20 (sediments)
Minimum Data Value	
Maximum Data Value	
Median Data Value	
Arithmetic Mean Value	
Standard Deviation	
Number (Percent) above Objective	

This table may summarize additional data not relevant to this factsheet that supports a continued listing for this waterbody.

Potential Sources

Unknown

References

Bay Protection and Toxic Cleanup Program database
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers sampling data for maintenance dredging